

cut creates a certain discontinuity in the pair of tapes forming the zip closure, resulting in an imperfect seal.

This patent, therefore, although it overcomes some problems, is not free of disadvantages.

5        One disadvantage is that the use of electronic devices to control speed occupy more space and make maintenance and set up more onerous.

Another disadvantage is that the provision of numerous sources of motion, such as unreeling units and pairs of feed  
10        rollers, upstream of the sealing and cutting unit leads to frequent crumpling of the film and tapes, which in turn means extended machine downtime to rearrange the film.

#### DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

15        The aim of this invention is to provide a horizontal packaging machine for making highly fluid-tight packages and which is capable of eliminating or significantly reducing the above mentioned drawbacks.

Another aim of the invention is to provide a horizontal  
20        packaging machine capable of achieving a high packaging output and significantly reducing processing time and machine down time.

This is achieved by a horizontal packaging machine having the features described in the main claim, for making  
25        highly fluid-tight packages.

*51.*        ~~The dependent claims describe advantageous embodiments of the invention.~~

The horizontal packaging machine for making highly fluid-tight packages according to the invention comprises:

- 30        - a unit for unreeling a film of synthetic material;  
- a unit for unreeling a pair of tapes forming a zip closure;  
- a shaping tunnel located downstream of the film unreeling unit;